

To: Mann, Laurie[mann.laurie@epa.gov]
From: Schary, Claire
Sent: Thur 4/16/2015 10:10:39 PM
Subject: FW: Deschutes Estuary Restoration Project

Claire Schary

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From: Parkin, Richard
Sent: Thursday, April 16, 2015 7:31 AM
To: Reichgott, Christine; Psyk, Christine; Opalski, Dan; Schary, Claire; Croxton, Dave; Cope, Ben
Cc: Bonifaci, Angela; Chang, Lisa
Subject: RE: Deschutes Estuary Restoration Project

Hi everyone, Please see the incoming email below and my proposed response. Could you please take a quick read and let me know if there are any blunders that need to be fixed. I should get this out tomorrow. Sorry to jam you. Hopefully this is a very quick read. Thank you in advance.

Dear Mr. Havens,

Thank you for your message concerning the potential Deschutes Estuary Restoration Project. I have read your letter to Congressman Heck and the writings of former EPA Administrator Ruckleshaus. EPA, Region 10 is following the Deschutes Estuary restoration through the National Estuary Program (NEP), the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Program, and our National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review authority.

Puget Sound is recognized by EPA as an Estuary of National Significance and in fact, Puget Sound was the first estuary admitted to the National Estuary Program in 1989. The National Estuary Program requires the development of a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) and for Puget Sound the CCMP is the Puget Sound Action Agenda. The Puget

Sound Management Conference, led by the Puget Sound Partnership uses a consensus building approach and collaborative decision-making process to continually improve and implement the Action Agenda. Recently, EPA has worked with the Puget Sound Management Conference to update EPA's mechanism for allocating funding to recover Puget Sound. This update will augment the ability of Local Integrating Organizations to develop recovery strategies for their local watersheds. This new funding model will assist the Alliance for a Healthy South Sound to participate in developing strategies for recovery of the Deschutes Estuary.

The EPA, through the Puget Sound NEP Program has funded work by the Squaxin Island Tribe to assess and investigate recovery of Coho salmon productivity in the Deschutes Watershed and to develop a recovery plan for the watershed. This work has involved a number of elements, including assessments of fishery, water quality, stream flow and habitat data; prioritization of habitat protection and restoration actions; and design/engineering of restoration actions. The Tribe has also performed work toward the development of conservation and restoration strategies and plans for specific areas within the watershed (e.g., Skookum Creek, Schneider Creek). More information on this work, including progress reports and deliverables to date, can be found at <http://blogs.nwifc.org/psp/tribal-project-updates/squaxin-island-tribe/>.

The Washington Department of Ecology is actively developing a TMDL for the Deschutes River, Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet. The TMDL will identify the major sources of water quality impairment in the river/estuary system and determine allocations of pollutant loads that will lead to attainment of water quality standards and restoration of water quality. EPA has been actively reviewing and commenting on the modeling work done by Ecology to-date. The completed TMDL will serve as a template for recovery of water quality in Budd Inlet that will inform the Action Agenda. Both the TMDL and the Action Agenda updates will have opportunities for the Alliance for a Healthy South Sound and the public to have a say in the decision making process.

The Corps of Engineers held a public comment period for the PSNERP Draft EIS which closed on January 8, 2015. The draft EIS thoroughly describes the PSNERP process and how the many proposed projects were narrowed down to 11 in the Preferred Alternative. The Deschutes Estuary Restoration Project was not included in the Preferred Alternative. In fact it was not discussed in the draft EIS.

The NEP is founded on the Partnership principle and the Puget Management Conference is particularly based on collaborative decision making. We may not get to consensus on issues with many disparate interests but we have strong mechanisms for all interests to be voiced so that final decisions meet as many of those needs as possible and still move forward to recover Puget Sound.

Thank you for ensuring that EPA is aware of your concerns. EPA will continue to actively participate in all of these actions regarding recovery of the Deschutes Estuary and push for open participation of all interest groups.

From: **Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy**

Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 10:51 AM

To: Parkin, Richard

Subject: Deschutes Estuary Restoration Project

Dear Mr. Parkin,

My name is Jack Havens. I am a member of the AHSS (Alliance for a Healthy South Sound) Council of the Puget Sound Partnership, and am concerned about the proposed Deschutes Estuary Restoration Project. This project is opposed by the overwhelming majority of citizens in the Thurston County area for many factually based reasons. We feel that it is imperative that the EPA be advised of the unusually high number of negative consequences of this project.

I have attached a letter and letter summary which our citizens grassroots group CLIPA (Capitol Lake Improvement and Protection Association) recently sent to Congressman Denny Heck regarding this project. Please excuse the length of the letter.

I have also attached a paper regarding the writings and spoken words of Bill Ruckleshaus as they apply to this issue.

Thank You,

Jack Havens, AHSS Council Member, Puget Sound Partnership

